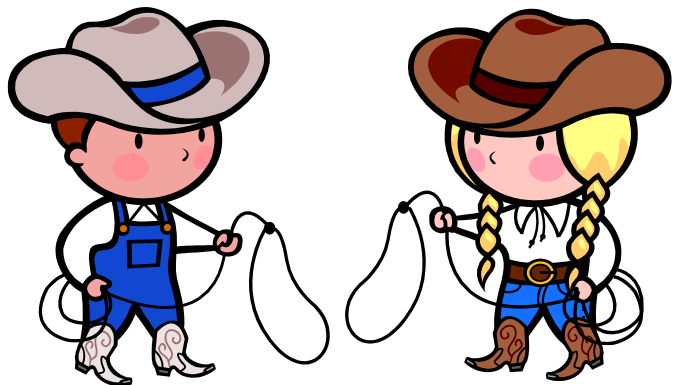


# Great Wild West Books at the Pleasanton Public Library

Compiled by the Pleasanton Library  
Children's Staff



Books are shelved in  
*Children's Fiction*  
by author's last name  
and/or  
*Children's Paperbacks*  
by first letter of author's last name  
(unless otherwise noted).

Please ask at the Children's Desk  
if you need help.

**Hard Gold: The Colorado Gold Rush of 1859** by Avi  
Grades 4-6 (229 p)  
*I Witness series*  
Young Early Wittcomb tries to help get money needed to pay the mortgage on the family farm by following his uncle into the Colorado Rockies to look for gold.



**The Journal of Jesse Smoke: A Cherokee Boy**  
by Joseph Bruchac  
Grades 5-7 (203 p)  
*My Name is America series*  
Jesse Smoke, a sixteen-year-old Cherokee, begins a journal in 1837 to record stories of his people and their difficulties as they face removal along the Trail of Tears.

**The Misadventures of Maude March: Or Trouble Rides a Fast Horse** by Audrey Couloubis  
Grades 5-8 (295 p) *Audiobook available*  
*Sequel: Maude March on the Run! Or Trouble is her Middle Name*  
After the death of the stern aunt who raised them since they were orphaned, eleven-year-old Sallie and her fifteen-year-old sister escape their self-serving guardians and begin an adventure resembling those in the dime novels Sallie loves to read.

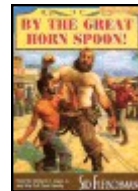


**The Ballad of Lucy Whipple** by Karen Cushman  
Grades 5-8 (195 p)  
In 1849, twelve-year-old California Morning Whipple, who renames herself Lucy, is distraught when her mother moves the family from Massachusetts to a rough California mining town.

**Much Ado About Grubstake** by Jean Ferris  
Grades 5-8 (265 p)  
When two city folks arrive in the depressed mining town of Grubstake, Colorado in 1888, sixteen-year-old orphaned Arley tries to discover why they want to buy the supposedly worthless mines in the area



**By the Great Horn Spoon** by Sid Fleischman  
Grades 4-6 (193 p) *Audiobook available*  
Jack Flagg, an orphan, runs away from home accompanied by the butler, Praiseworthy, and becomes involved in the Gold Rush of 1849.



**Jim Ugly** by Sid Fleischman  
Grades 4-7 (130 p)  
The adventures are told of twelve-year-old Jake and Jim Ugly, his father's part-mongrel, part-wolf dog, as they travel through the Old West trying to find out what really happened to Jake's actor father.

**Seeds of Hope: The Gold Rush Diary of Susanna Fairchild** by Kristiana Gregory  
Grades 5-8 (186 p)  
*Dear America series*  
This is a diary account of fourteen-year-old Susanna Fairchild's life in 1849, when her father succumbs to gold fever on the way to establish his medical practice in Oregon after losing his wife and money on their steamship journey from New York. Includes a historical note.

**Rapunzel's Revenge** by Shannon and Dean Hale  
Shelved in Children's Graphic Novels "H"  
Grades 5-8 (144 p)  
Rapunzel, having grown up in a lovely castle with the woman she thought was her mother, is placed in a very tall hollow tree as punishment after her curiosity prompts



her to climb the castle wall and look at the ruin of the world beyond her home, but she is able to escape and with the help of her friend Jack, embarks on a plan to free the land from the grip of a witch.

**Adventurous Deeds of Deadwood Jones**  
by Helen Hemphill  
Grades 6-9 (228 p)  
Thirteen-year-old Prometheus Jones and his eleven-year-old cousin Omer flee Tennessee and join a cattle drive that will eventually take them to Texas, where Prometheus hopes his father lives. They end up finding adventure and facing challenges as African Americans in a land still recovering from the Civil War.



**The Last Cowboys: In Which Roo Searches for her Lost Grandfather, a Dog of Some Renown**  
by Harry Horse  
Grades 3-5 (111 p)  
In a series of letters to his grandson, an elderly gentleman relates how he and his remarkable little dog traveled to America on an expedition to the Wild West to find the dog's grandfather, rumored to be living among cowboys following a successful movie career.



**Hoofbeats of Danger** by Holly Hughes  
Grades 4-6 (130 p)  
*History Mysteries series*  
In 1860, eleven-year-old Annie, who lives at the Red Buttes Pony Express station in the Nebraska Territory, asks Pony Express rider Billy Cody to help her find the person responsible for sabotaging her favorite pony Magpie.

**The Great Turkey Walk** by Kathleen Karr  
Grades 4-7 (199 p)  
In 1860, a somewhat simple-minded fifteen-year-old boy attempts to herd one thousand turkeys from Missouri to Denver, Colorado, in hopes of selling them at a profit.



**Hattie Big Sky** by Kirby Larson  
Grades 7-9 (289 p)  
After inheriting her uncle's homesteading claim in Montana, sixteen-year-old orphan Hattie Brooks travels from Iowa in 1917 to make a home for herself and encounters some unexpected problems related to the war being fought in Europe.



**Alice Rose & Sam** by Kathryn Lasky  
Grades 5-8 (252 p)  
Alice Rose, an irrepressible twelve-year-old, shares adventures with Mark Twain, an outlandish reporter on her father's newspaper in Virginia City, Nevada, during the 1860s.

**Sarah, Plain and Tall** by Patricia MacLachlan  
Shelved in Children's Moving Up  
*Sequel: Skylark*  
Grades 3-5 (58 p) *Audiobook available*  
When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay.

**Stop the Train!** by Geraldine McCaughrean  
Grades 5-8 (289 p)  
Despite the opposition of the owner of the Red Rock Runner railroad in 1893, the new settlers of Florence, Oklahoma, are determined to build a real town.



**Moccasin Trail** by Eloise Jarvis McGraw  
Grades 5-8 (247 p)  
A pioneer boy, brought up by Crow Indians, is reunited with his family and attempts to orient himself in the white man's culture.



## Shelved in Non-Fiction

**The Donner Party**  
by Roger Wachtel — **J7919.403 Wachtel**  
The journey of the Donner Party is recounted. In 1846 they sought to travel from Independence, Missouri, to California but took an untried shortcut that trapped them in the Sierra Nevada mountains during a terrible winter.

**Pecos Bill: A Tall Tale**  
by Steven Kellogg — **J398.22 Kellogg**

**The Trail of Tears, 1838**  
by Laura Purdie Salas — **J973.04975 Salas**

**Rodeo**  
by Roxie Munro — **J791.8 Munro**  
Lift the flaps and learn about rodeo events.

**Wild West**  
by Stuart Murray — **J978.02 Murray**  
*DK Eyewitness Books series*  
Brief text and color illustrations chronicle the history of the American West, from the adventures of Lewis and Clark to the massacre at Wounded Knee.

**Words West: Voices of Young Pioneers**  
by Ginger Wadsworth — **J917.8042 Wadsworth**

**Jesse James: Wild West Train Robber**  
by Elaine Landau — **JB James, J**

**Annie Oakley**  
by Chuck Wills — **JB Oakley, A**

**Down the Colorado: John Wesley Powell, the One-Armed Explorer**  
by Deborah Kogan Ray — **JB Powell, J**  
Story of the man who led the first scientific expedition down the Colorado River and through the Grand Canyon.

Pleasanton Public Library  
Children's Services  
400 Old Bernal Ave.  
Pleasanton, California 94566

(925) 931-3400

Hours:  
Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m.- 9 p.m.  
Friday-Saturday: 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.  
Sunday: 1 p.m.- 5 p.m.



6/2009



***The Righteous Revenge of Artemis Bonner***  
by Walter Dean Myers  
Grades 5-8 (140 p)  
Fifteen-year-old Artemis journeys from New York City to Tombstone, Arizona, in 1882, to avenge the murder of his uncle.

***The Legend of Bass Reeves: Being the True and Fictional Account of the Most Valiant Marshal in the West*** by Gary Paulsen  
Grades 6-9 (137 p)  
An account of the life of Bass Reeves who was born a slave and later became one of the most respected federal marshals in Oklahoma and Texas.



***The Good, the Bad, and the Goofy*** by Jon Scieszka  
Shelved in Children’s Moving Up  
Grades 3-5 (70 p) *Time Warp Trio series*  
The Time Warp Trio find themselves in the Wild West of yesteryear, rubbing elbows with cowboys and Indians.

***Tales from Gizzard’s Grill*** by Jeanne Steig  
Grades 4-6 (72 p)  
Three tall tales from the Old West town of Fiasco are presented. The lady sheriff keeps the peace and friends, old and new, enjoy the treats of Gizzard’s Grill.



## Wild West Stories for Younger Readers

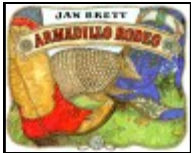
***Sam’s Wild West Show*** by Nancy Antle  
Grades 1-2 (40 p) JE Antle  
Sam and his Wild West Show entertain the townsfolk and catch two bank robbers before moving on to the next town.

***The Original Adventures of Hank the Cowdog***  
by John Erickson  
Grades 2-4 (127 p) *Hank the Cowdog series*  
Shelved in Paperbacks “B”  
Hank the Cowdog, Head of Ranch Security, is framed for the murder of a chicken and becomes an outlaw with the coyotes.



***Wagon Wheels*** by Barbara Brenner  
Grades 1-2 (64 p) JE Brenner  
Shortly after the Civil War a black family travels to Kansas to take advantage of the free land offered through the Homestead Act.

***Armadillo Rodeo*** by Jan Brett  
Grades 1-3 — JPB “B”  
A curious young armadillo finds himself at a rodeo after accidently wandering away from his mother.



***The Golly Sisters Go West*** by Betsy Byars  
Grades 1-2 (64 p) JE Byars  
*Sequel: The Golly Sisters Ride Again*  
May-May and Rose, the singing, dancing Golly sisters, travel west by covered wagon, entertaining people along the way.

***Tumbleweed Stew*** by Susan Crummel  
Grades K-2 — JE Crummel  
Jack Rabbit tricks the other animals into helping him make a pot of tumbleweed stew.

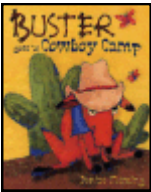
***Lasso Lou and Cowboy McCoy***  
by Barbara Failing  
Grades 1-3 — JPB “F”  
McCoy buys himself a cowboy hat, which leads to a series of misadventures at the Bo-Dee-Oh Ranch.



***Buffalo Music*** by Tracey Fern  
Grades 2-4 — JPB “F”  
After hunters kill off the buffalo around her Texas ranch, a woman begins raising orphan buffalo calves and eventually ships four members of her small herd to Yellowstone National Park, where they form the beginnings of newly thriving buffalo herds. It is based on a true story.



***Buster Goes to Cowboy Camp*** by Denise Fleming  
Grades K-2 — JPB “F”  
When Buster the dog’s owner goes away for a few days he sends Buster to Sagebrush Kennels for a Cowboy Camp where Buster is homesick at first, but then has fun herding balls into the corral, gathering sticks for a campfire, and making wanted posters with his paw prints.



***The Toughest Cowboy or How the Wild West was Tamed***  
by John Frank  
Shelved in Children’s Moving Up  
Grades 2-4  
The story of how a group of rough, uncouth cowboys have their lives turned completely upside down when one of them decides to get a dog, who turns out to be a French poodle named Foofy.



***The Sweetwater Run: The Story of Buffalo Bill Cody and the Pony Express*** by Andrew Glass  
Shelved in Children’s Moving Up  
Grades 2-4  
Buffalo Bill Cody recounts his adventures as a teenaged rider for the Pony Express. Includes a history of the Pony Express and facts about Cody’s life.

***The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses*** by Paul Goble  
Grades 1-3 — JPB “G”  
Though she is fond of her people, a girl prefers to live among the wild horses where she is truly happy and free.

***Bronco Busters*** by Alison Cragin Herzig  
Grades 1-3 — JPB “H”  
Three rough, tough bronco busters can’t tame a little black pony, but a small, quiet cowboy talks to him and brings him water, and then quietly rides away with him.



***Tenth Avenue Cowboy*** by Linda Oatman High  
Shelved in Children’s Moving Up  
Grades 2-4  
In 1910, when his family moves to New York City from their ranch out West, Ben misses the cowboys and the prairies that they left behind, but after he learns that there are cowboys in the city who race along the railroad tracks and warn people of approaching trains, he begins to feel more at home.

***Apples to Oregon***  
by Deborah Hopkinson  
Grades K-3 — JPB “H”This is the (slightly) true narrative of how a brave pioneer father brought



apples, peaches, plums, grapes, and cherries (and children) across the plains.

***The Ghosts of Luckless Gulch*** by Anne Isaacs  
Shelved in Children’s Moving Up  
Grades 2-4 (45 p)  
During the California Gold Rush of 1848, ten-year-old Estrella faces a group of greedy ghosts who have stolen her exotic pets to work in their gold mine.



***Gold Fever*** by Verla Kay  
Grades K-2 — JPB “K”  
In this brief rhyming story set during the gold rush, Jasper leaves his family and farm to pursue his dream of finding gold.

***Bubba the Cowboy Prince: A Fractured Texas Tale***  
by Helen Ketteman  
Grades Pre-K-2 — JPB “K”  
Loosely based on “Cinderella,” this story is set in Texas, the fairy godmother is a cow, and the hero, named Bubba, is the stepson of a wicked rancher.



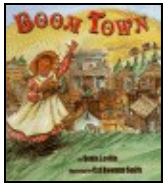
***The Great Texas Hamster Drive*** by Eric A. Kimmel  
Grades K-2 — JPB “K”  
When Pecos Bill’s daughter gets two pet hamsters, they soon multiply into hundreds, so Bill decided to take them all to Chicago where lots of boys and girls want pet hamsters.



***Little Britches and the Rattlers***  
by Eric A. Kimmel  
Grades K-2 — JPB “K”  
As Little Britches, in her best attire, starts for the rodeo in town, she is waylaid by several rattlesnakes wanting to do her harm, but with some quick thinking she finds a way to outsmart them all..



***Boom Town*** by Sonia Levitin  
Grades 1-4 — JPB “L”  
After her family moves to California where her father goes to work in the gold fields, Amanda decides to make her own fortune baking pies and she encourages others to provide the necessary services — from a general store to a school — that enables her town to prosper.



***Yine For California*** by Sonia Levitin  
Grades 1-4 — JPB “L”  
Amanda travels by stagecoach with her four siblings and her mother from Missouri to California to join her father.



***The Cowgirl Aunt of Harriet Bean***  
by Alexander McCall Smith  
Shelved in Children’s Moving Up  
Grades 2-4 (81 p) *Audiobook available*  
*Harriet Bean series*  
When she joins Aunt Japonica and Aunt Thessalonika on a trip to America, nine-year-old Harriet meets yet another relative—Aunt Formica, a cowgirl who is having trouble with some clever and mysterious cattle rustlers.



***Ridin’ Dinos with Buck Bronco*** by George McClements  
Grades K-2 — JPB “M”  
Buck Bronco teaches how to care for and ride a variety of strange dinosaurs.

***Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa*** by Erica Silverman  
Grades K-2— JE Silverman *Audiobook available*  
*Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa series*  
Cowgirl Kate and her cowhorse Cocoa, who is always hungry, count cows, share a story, and help each other fall asleep.

***Jess and the Stinky Cowboys*** by Janice Lee Smith  
Grades K-2 (48 p) JE Smith, J.  
When a band of stinky cowboys comes to town while the sheriff is away and refuses to bathe, young Deputy Jess and her aunt, Deputy Gussy, must find a way to enforce the No-Stink law.

***Saving Sweetness*** by Diane Stanley  
Shelved in Children’s Moving Up  
Grades 2-4 *Sequel: Raising Sweetness*  
The sheriff of a dusty western town rescues Sweetness, an unusually resourceful orphan, from nasty old Mrs. Sump and her terrible orphanage.



***Cowboy Ned and Andy*** by David Ezra Stein  
Grades K-2 — JPB “S” *Audiobook set available*  
On a cattle drive in the desert on the night before Cowboy Ned’s birthday, his horse Andy goes in search of a birthday cake, which he thinks will make Ned’s birthday complete.



***The Wild, Wild West*** by Geronimo Stilton  
Grades 2-4 (67 p) Children’s Paperbacks “S”  
*Geronimo Stilton series*  
Geronimo Stilton finds himself in the Wild West, where he gets into a showdown with an evil rat.

***How I Spent My Summer Vacation*** by Mark Teague  
Grades K-2— JPB “T”  
A schoolboy tells his class about his summer vacation, during which he joined a group of cowboys and stopped a cattle stampede.



***The Dirty Cowboy*** by Amy Timberlake  
Grades 2-4 — JPB “T”  
Telling his faithful dog to make sure nobody touches his clothes but him, a cowboy jumps into a New Mexico river for a bath, not realizing just how much the scrubbing will change his scent.



***Comes a Wind*** by Linda White  
Grades 1-3 — JPB “W”  
While visiting their mother’s ranch, two brothers who constantly try to best each other swap tall tales about big winds and are surprised by the fiercest wind they have ever seen.



***Wild West Bananza*** by Paul Frank Industries  
Grades K-2 — JPB “W”  
Julius is bored with being sheriff of Matchy Patch Valley, where no one ever wants to try anything different, until the day Bob decides not to tuck his jeans into his boots and sets off a frenzy of change.



***I Want to be a Cowgirl*** by Jeanne Willis  
Grades K-2 — JPB “W”  
Speaking in rhyme, a little girl tells her father that she would rather have the active outdoor life of a cowgirl than that of a girl who stays inside quietly reading, talking or cleaning.

